

THE PRIZE RING.

GREAT PRIZE FIGHT
FOR THE
CHAMPIONSHIP OF AMERICAAND
ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS A SIDE,
BETWEENJoe Coburn, of New York, and
Mike McCool, of St. Louis.COBURN THE WINNER,
AND THE

CHAMPION OF AMERICA,

In Sixty-seven Rounds and One
Hour and Ten Minutes.

This eventful contest in the annals of the prize ring of this country, and which for the past three months has been the subject of absorbing interest in sporting circles in the Western and Northern States, was brought to a decisive issue yesterday, and resulted in the victory of Joe Coburn, who is now, in the absence of John G. Bennett, the acknowledged pugilistic champion of America. The fight lasted one hour and ten minutes. There were sixty-seven rounds.

Since the memorable contest between John Morrissey and John G. Bennett, at Long Point, Canada, October 30, 1854, for the championship and five thousand dollars, has been no event in the American ring which has created more intense and widespread interest than the present match. Nor has this interest been confined to what is vaguely termed "sporting circles," but has extended throughout all classes of the community. In the Western States it has been regarded in a sectional point of view, McCool being looked upon as the representative of the West, as Coburn of the North. It is a singular fact, with the exception of Hyer and Bennett, every man who has held the championship of America, has been a native of the "Emerald Isle." Sullivan and Morrissey were Irishmen, and both the contestants for the title in the present contest were born in the "emerald country." Although the prize ring in America is not, as in England, an established institution, having its "Pugilistic Benevolent Association," its recognized code of rules, and tangible championship belt, yet by a tacit and universally understood agreement, we regard that man as our representative champion, who has proved his claims to such position by his achievements in the ring. We consequently look upon Sullivan, in consequence of his victories over Scott, Bell, Hammond and Caut, upon Hyer for his defeat of Sullivan, and upon Morrissey for conquering Bennett, as having been the champions of the American ring. To this list the name of the victor in this present fight may now justly be appended.

In order to make our record of this fight complete, we give a brief sketch of the previous pugilistic career of both Coburn and McCool, commencing with the former.

SKETCH OF COBURN.

Joe Coburn was born in Ireland, in the year 1835, and is consequently now in his twenty-eighth year. His parents emigrated to this country when he was quite young, making New York their residence. He early acquired a natural aptitude for boxing, and from his constant attendance at pugilistic exhibitions and seeing, quickly became skillful with the gloves and thoroughly acquainted with the science of self-defense. His promising qualities as a boxer soon attracted attention, and before he had fully attained manhood he was matched against Ed. Price, of Boston, a man who had fought successfully in several affairs for small amounts in England, of which country he was a native. Price was the heavier and taller man, besides having the advantage of age and experience. They met at Still Pond, about eight miles from Boston, May 1, 1856, and after a long and protracted fight of three hours and twenty minutes, the referee, on account of the approach of darkness, declared the battle drawn. In this contest Coburn displayed military qualities of a high order: his fine science, activity, and the precision and severity of his hitting, enabling him to take a decided lead from the first, and punish Price severely. The latter displayed most dauntless gameness, coming up round after round only to become more general, until after one hundred and thirty rounds were fought, Coburn began to fall away, owing to his total want of condition (it being an impromptu fight), and he could not follow up the advantage he had previously gained. How it would have terminated, had not darkness intervened, it is now impossible to decide, although Coburn's friends maintain that he must eventually have won the fight, so much had he punished Price without having received anything worthy of mention in return. For eighteen months after this passage at arms, Coburn was unable to get on another match, owing to the prestige which this contest with Price had given him. He continued working at his regular labor as a stone-mason, without interruption, except a little while he had with the well-known Patsy Flynn, who had defeated Scott Davis in a regular ring fight some eighteen months ago. Flynn's claim to be considered a match for Joe, were disposed of in the short course of four rounds. His next match was a more important one, being for \$300 a side, against Harry Grubbin, of this city. The latter had fought several times in England, with various success, and his friends thought, that although a much older man than Coburn, his long experience and advantage in height and weight, would counterbalance youth, and superior activity. They met in Canada, November 18, 1857, when, after fighting twenty-one rounds in thirty minutes, Grubbin was knocked out of the ring by a tremendous left-handed blow on the ribs. This was Coburn's last appearance in the ring until the present fight for the championship.

SKETCH OF MCCOOL.

Mike McCool, like Coburn, is an Irishman by birth, and an American by adoption. Born in 1837, he is consequently twenty-six years old, or two years younger than his opponent. His first appearance in the ring was in a match with William Blake, otherwise known as "Dublin Trick," of St. Louis, McCool at that time being in the business of a steamboatman. The match was for \$200 a side, and came off at Twelve Mile Island, near New Orleans, June 27, 1859, McCool winning in thirty-one minutes and twenty-nine rounds. In this fight he showed that although a hard hitter and game man, he was entirely deficient in science. His avocation as river boatman carrying him frequently to New Orleans, he there met Tom Jennings, who had just returned from an unsuccessful visit to this city to get on a match with either Price or Aaron Jones. Several games, aware of Mike's abilities as a boxer, and desirous of testing Jennings' boasted qualities, induced the former to concede a match with Jennings for \$300 a side. They met on the river, near New Orleans, May 2, 1860, and fought twenty-five rounds in one hour and twenty minutes, Jennings being the victor. In this fight, as in his previous one with Blake, McCool showed himself a game, resolute, natural fighter, without any claim to the possession of science.

In his fight with Jennings, McCool was in the neighborhood of 180 pounds. His frame is massive and powerful, built, broad shoulders, strong pectorals, and a countenance expressive of resolution and firmness. The general demeanor is quiet and unassuming, yet his confidence in his own

power is great, increased probably by his previous success in the ring. He has about four inches the advantage in height over Coburn, and about twenty-five pounds in weight, immense odds, it must be acknowledged, to contend against.

This fight originated out of an unsuccessful attempt to match McCool against Hansen, just previous to the departure of the latter for England, some eight months ago. The attempt of Coburn to get on another match with Mike at a good chance to pit the latter against him. They accordingly commenced negotiations, and the parties of Coburn readily responding, arrangements were quickly made for a match, and the following articles of agreement signed by both men—

ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT.

Article of agreement entered into this second day of February, 1863, between Michael McCool and Joseph Coburn. The said Michael McCool agrees to fight the said Joseph Coburn a fair ring fight. The said fight shall be for the sum of one thousand dollars a side, and shall take place on the first Tuesday in May, at the fifth of said month, 1863.

In pursuance of this agreement, twenty dollars a side are now deposited in the hands of the editor of the *Clipper*, who shall be stakeholder, who shall also be final stakeholder. The second deposit of two hundred and fifty dollars each shall be made at Ed. Wilson's, West Broadway, on the 15th day of March. The third deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at No. 22, Centre Street, on the 30th day of March. The fourth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at No. 55, Broadway, on the 15th day of April. The fifth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of April. The sixth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of May. The seventh deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of May. The eighth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of June. The ninth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of June. The tenth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of July. The eleventh deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of July. The twelfth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of August. The thirteenth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of August. The fourteenth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of September. The fifteenth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of September. The sixteenth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of October. The seventeenth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of October. The eighteenth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of November. The nineteenth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of November. The twentieth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of December. The twenty-first deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of December. The twenty-second deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of January, 1864. The twenty-third deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of January, 1864. The twenty-fourth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of February, 1864. The twenty-fifth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of February, 1864. The twenty-sixth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of March, 1864. The twenty-seventh deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of March, 1864. The twenty-eighth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of April, 1864. 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The hundred and seventy-eighth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of July, 1870. The hundred and seventy-ninth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of July, 1870. The hundred and eightieth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of August, 1870. The hundred and eighty-first deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of August, 1870. The hundred and eighty-second deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of September, 1870. The hundred and eighty-third deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of September, 1870. The hundred and eighty-fourth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of October, 1870. The hundred and eighty-fifth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of October, 1870. The hundred and eighty-sixth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of November, 1870. The hundred and eighty-seventh deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of November, 1870. The hundred and eighty-eighth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of December, 1870. The hundred and eighty-ninth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of December, 1870. The hundred and ninetieth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of January, 1871. The hundred and ninety-first deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of January, 1871. The hundred and ninety-second deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of February, 1871. The hundred and ninety-third deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of February, 1871. The hundred and ninety-fourth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of March, 1871. The hundred and ninety-fifth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of March, 1871. The hundred and ninety-sixth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of April, 1871. The hundred and ninety-seventh deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of April, 1871. The hundred and ninety-eighth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of May, 1871. The hundred and ninety-ninth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of May, 1871. The hundredth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of June, 1871. The hundred and first deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of June, 1871. The hundred and second deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of July, 1871. The hundred and third deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of July, 1871. The hundred and fourth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of August, 1871. The hundred and fifth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of August, 1871. The hundred and sixth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of September, 1871. The hundred and seventh deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of September, 1871. The hundred and eighth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of October, 1871. The hundred and ninth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of October, 1871. The hundred and tenth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of November, 1871. The hundred and eleventh deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of November, 1871. The hundred and twelfth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of December, 1871. The hundred and thirteenth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of December, 1871. The hundred and fourteenth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of January, 1872. The hundred and fifteenth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of January, 1872. The hundred and sixteenth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of February, 1872. The hundred and seventeenth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of February, 1872. The hundred and eighteenth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of March, 1872. The hundred and nineteenth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of March, 1872. The hundred and twentieth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of April, 1872. The hundred and twenty-first deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of April, 1872. The hundred and twenty-second deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of May, 1872. The hundred and twenty-third deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of May, 1872. The hundred and twenty-fourth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of June, 1872. The hundred and twenty-fifth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of June, 1872. The hundred and twenty-sixth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of July, 1872. The hundred and twenty-seventh deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of July, 1872. The hundred and twenty-eighth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of August, 1872. The hundred and twenty-ninth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of August, 1872. The hundred and thirtieth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of September, 1872. The hundred and thirty-first deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of September, 1872. The hundred and thirty-second deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of October, 1872. The hundred and thirty-third deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of October, 1872. The hundred and thirty-fourth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of November, 1872. The hundred and thirty-fifth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of November, 1872. The hundred and thirty-sixth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of December, 1872. The hundred and thirty-seventh deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of December, 1872. The hundred and thirty-eighth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of January, 1873. The hundred and thirty-ninth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of January, 1873. The hundred and fortieth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of February, 1873. The hundred and forty-first deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of February, 1873. The hundred and forty-second deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of March, 1873. The hundred and forty-third deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of March, 1873. The hundred and forty-fourth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of April, 1873. The hundred and forty-fifth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of April, 1873. The hundred and forty-sixth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of May, 1873. The hundred and forty-seventh deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of May, 1873. The hundred and forty-eighth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of June, 1873. The hundred and forty-ninth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of June, 1873. The hundred and fiftieth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of July, 1873. The hundred and fifty-first deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of July, 1873. The hundred and fifty-second deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of August, 1873. The hundred and fifty-third deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of August, 1873. The hundred and fifty-fourth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of September, 1873. The hundred and fifty-fifth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of September, 1873. The hundred and fifty-sixth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of October, 1873. The hundred and fifty-seventh deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of October, 1873. The hundred and fifty-eighth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of November, 1873. The hundred and fifty-ninth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of November, 1873. The hundred and sixtieth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of December, 1873. The hundred and sixty-first deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of December, 1873. The hundred and sixty-second deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of January, 1874. The hundred and sixty-third deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of January, 1874. The hundred and sixty-fourth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of February, 1874. The hundred and sixty-fifth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of February, 1874. The hundred and sixty-sixth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of March, 1874. The hundred and sixty-seventh deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of March, 1874. The hundred and sixty-eighth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 15th day of April, 1874. The hundred and sixty-ninth deposit of one hundred dollars to be made at the corner of Centre and Houston Streets, on the 30th day of April, 1874